



## Reasons to Still Enjoy MIPCOM, Cannes

**T**he wait is over. MIPCOM Cannes is here. It actually started yesterday, and it's a great opportunity to reconnect with friends and clients. Granted, the world now teems with Lilliputian TV markets, and indeed, marked on a geographic map, they resemble a congested air traffic map, but no other market can claim to have the large number of participants — and parties — that MIPCOM has.

Larger distribution companies face budget cuts and have therefore reduced their presences to just a few international TV trade



shows. For them, MIPCOM cannot be missed. After all, it's the mother of all markets.

Major distributors also have the luxury of receiving buyers' calls while comfortably seated at their desks. But after a while it becomes boring. Yes, there is the occasional

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## Tony Vinciquerra Envisions Bleak Picture for TV

**T**ony Vinciquerra, CEO of Sony Pictures Entertainment (SPE), is here in Cannes, and, as part of yesterday's C-suite Conversations, answered questions about the state of the industry.

Early last month, while speaking at the annual Bank of America (BofA) Media, Communications & Entertainment Conference in New York City, Vinciquerra made news by painting a bleak picture of show business. Media giants could be in jeopardy if they make mistakes or miscalculations, he said at the BofA's conference.

Hollywood will be in a period of chaos for the next 18 to 24 months, Vinciquerra explained. "Just look at all the companies with cable networks that have this albatross around their necks that they have to figure out what

(Continued on Page 4)

## Blair Westlake On Television's Compelling Issues

**B**lair Westlake is a former chairman of Universal Television & Networks Group, who currently serves as an executive coach for clients including Ernst & Young, IBM, Microsoft, Accenture, and KPMG. VideoAge Daily quizzed Westlake on various issues confronting the TV industry today:

VideoAge Daily: How should producers and distributors deal with streaming platforms (meaning should they retain distribution rights, get residuals, etc...)?

Blair Westlake: The volume of

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# My 2¢

Life is a comedy wrapped inside a drama. And that's why I always loved comedy. Now, at an older age, I love it even more.



In my opinion, in order to understand a comedy sketch you have to think about it as actually a drama. On the other hand, if it causes irresistible laughter, it is a comedy. But there are exceptions. For example, *The Bear*, a TV series produced by Disney's FX for Hulu, has received 23 Emmy nominations in the comedy category (this year the series won 11 Emmys). The *Bear* is not a comedy series, but a convoluted psychological drama. Granted, comedy is funny when it reflects life's daily dramas, as was first done in the Italian cinematic "neo-realism" era, and later in the "Commedia all'italiana" era, made popular by Marcello Mastroianni, Sophia Loren, and film directors like Lina Wertmuller. But from what I could watch of it, *The Bear* doesn't even elicit a smirk.

These days, television comedies are no longer what Don Rickles or Dean Martin envisioned in the 1980s. And "fun" TV shows are no longer like Norman Lear's *All in the Family* or the CBS series *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*. Today, viewers laugh at animals trying to act like humans, and humans trying to act like animals. An example? *America's Funniest Home Videos* on ABC.

This preamble is to introduce three books now in bookstores: *Comedy Book: How Comedy Conquered Culture — and the Magic That Makes it Work* by Jesse David Fox, *Outrageous: A History of Showbiz and the Culture Wars* by Kliph Nesteroff, and Danzy Senna's humorous novel *Colored Television*.

In August, *The New Yorker* also dedicated an entire issue to comedy, and this November 8–17, New York City will host its New York Comedy Festival.

Indeed, comedy is everywhere these days, except on television. As I said, the powers that be have been trying to put comedies on the air, but they seem to get confused with dramas.

Comedy is also tied to censorship. In the past, various comedians have been arrested in the U.S. for pushing the comedy envelope, with their material even being classified as obscene (i.e., Lenny Bruce, George Carlin),

nevertheless comedy has always thrived. Today, censorship is not enforced by detention, but comedy has been silenced by the more insidious political correctness police force, and many great comedy shows of the past (*All in the Family*, *Dean Martin's Roasts*, *I Love Lucy*, etc.). can no longer be replicated. Indeed, comedy conquered American culture with the success of *Seinfeld*, which first aired on NBC in 1989, comedy's golden era.

Today, even stand-up comedy venues are under attack by the political correctness police force and cancel culture advocates. Recently, one comedy club, the Comedy Cellar in New York City, had to refund patrons who objected to a comic routine.

Before reaching democratic societies (and being called Cancel Culture), the censorship of the so-called politically correct was used in reference to totalitarian regimes. Today, censorship has many targets: books, TV shows, media in general, art, political discourse, and religion. Despite this, former U.S. president Donald Trump came up with his own Bible, even though he reportedly violated nine of the Ten Commandments.

Before political correctness and Cancel Culture took hold of democratic societies, even the sober Germans, who are not generally known for comedy, used to come out with funny TV sketches. In 2009, for example, German entertainer Matze Knop came up with (*Luca sei per me*) *Numero Uno*, an irreverent (and no longer performable on TV) song used in a TV sketch about former Italian football star Luca Toni, then playing with Bayern Munich; and from 1963 to this day, the *Dinner for Two* comedy short has been a staple of the New Year's German TV schedule (although the show is British) — which illustrates the dramatic case of the state of comedy.

Dom Serafini



*Comedy is  
everywhere these  
days, except on  
television.*

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(Continued from Cover)

## MIPCOM

power lunch meeting, as well as general conference calls when one can catch up on some sleep, but it's not the same as walking along the Croisette, slurping on an ice cream cone, and gossiping with friends about who flew first class and who as a civilian, and discussing how you can tell who is a top executive and who isn't based on which hotel they're staying at.

Business is hard and becoming even harder, but for many people business takes a step back in Cannes, and relationships are rekindled. Then, there are parties to go to, press conferences to attend, and seminars to dispense wisdom at.

In terms of official figures, as per last Saturday, 9,464 participants had registered for the market, of which 2,644 are buyers. The number of exhibitors is said to be 1,468.

Among the new companies exhibiting at MIPCOM is CosmoBlue Media. Co-founders Loni Farhi and Berk Uziyel — both formerly with SPI

— are here to present their new venture, which includes recently acquired family entertainment brands Da Vinci and Azoomee, and a collaboration with Fz Sports for a new streaming platform and the distribution of LatAm soccer media rights.

This year's event also marks the return of all Hollywood studios. Among the studios' contingents is the Miami-based Disney Latin America team, which is here in full force because "all our big clients are at MIPCOM," said a spokesperson.

Tomorrow, Lucy Smith, director of MIPCOM Cannes, will hold a press conference to give an update on this edition's attendance and on the upcoming inaugural MIP London. ■

Pictured on the cover: Disney Entertainment Latin America's Fabiola Bovino, Barbara Lorenzo, Leonardo Aranguibel, Alis Perez, and Federico Llaver.

## VinciQuerra

to do with," he said, and predicted the industry is in for a wave of "mergers and bankruptcies and sales," and that only the biggest companies will survive.

Regardless, the 70-year-old Sony Pictures Entertainment executive maintained that show biz is "a good business to be in." Earlier this month, Sony announced that VinciQuerra will be taking on an advisory role in January, while Ravi Ahuja, who currently serves as the company's COO, will become SPE's CEO.

Under VinciQuerra, Sony became what has been described as the Switzerland of the television business, producing and selling content for other companies' streaming services, thus avoiding streaming wars by staying out of that business. ■

## News & Pics from the MIPCOM Floor



- **FilmRise** will be launching a suite of all new FAST channels, including the first ever channel solely dedicated to series about Sherlock Holmes. New channels ready to launch are: The Sherlock Holmes Channel, Z Nation, Continuum, FilmRise Drama, Sheriffs: El Dorado County and Iron Chef en Español, all of which will be available globally.

In other FilmRise news, the company has acquired all four seasons of series *The Outpost*, the fantasy-adventure drama which ran for four years (2018–2021) on the CW network. The FilmRise team is pictured above.

- **Global Agency** launched its *Celebrity Dreams* project at an all-white dress code event held on Sunday in Saint Tropez. The bash included a special screening session for buyers and press, followed by lunch and a party. Each episode of *Celebrity Dreams* begins at a star's home with the narration of their journey to fame, then they reveal their hidden fantasy. The program takes a new look at the life of celebrities, just as it changes the way celebrities view themselves.

- Social media marketing and creator agency **Viral Nation** has teamed up with produc-

er Trip Taylor (*Jackass*, *Nitro Circus* and *Bad Grandpa*) to launch Full Tilt Network for a global audience.

The platform will be home to over 1,000 hours of content and feature a line-up of high-octane sports content and originals from iconic creators like Nick Pro, The Dudesons, Legendary Shots, and Josh Horton, among others.

- **GRB Media Ranch** has acquired the U.S. rights for two seasons of courtroom reality series *Relative Justice* from Kentucky producers Wrigley Media Group. This daily arbitration-based reality court show features Judge Rhonda Wills settling family squabbles and emotional quarrels. The reality series is also available as a format.

- **CosmoBlue Media** and Fz Sports have entered a partnership to collaborate on OTT streaming and the global distribution of media rights. In the OTT domain, the companies will collaborate to develop and deploy a next-generation streaming platform, set to operate globally.

On the sports media side, CosmoBlue will



work with Fz Sports to distribute and commercialize its sports properties worldwide. Fz Sports, through 1190 Sports, manages the international rights for the Argentine soccer league, Peru's Liga1, the World Cup Qualifiers media rights for most Conmebol teams, and the international media rights to Brazil's Paulistão tournament. Pictured at left: CosmoBlue's Ige Mergen, Revi Lavi, Luca Fiore, Berk Uziyel, Loni Farhi, Hatice Olcay, Alex Maier.

- **All3Media International** has secured four new versions of Two Brothers Pictures format *Liar*, bringing the total number of adaptations to 15.

A version is in production in Botswana with Botswana Ignite, marking the first time the format has travelled to Africa (this is also the first time that one of All3Media's scripted formats will be produced in Sub-Saharan Africa). Additionally, new versions are in development in Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

- **Tokyo Broadcasting System Television** has finalized a Turkish remake option deal for series *Forget Love* and *Tower of Sand* with Fabrika Yapim. The deal was brokered by Here Medya. *Forget Love* follows the romance between a cold-hearted man and a blind young woman who suffers due to the lack of affection from her father.

*Tower of Sand* is an original suspense drama about a housewife who moves into an apartment building where she is surrounded by controlling celebrities, a mysterious neighbor who eerily watches her, and a series of infant disappearances. ■

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(Continued from Cover)

## Blair Westlake on Television

new content produced today has impaired most, if not all, backend. In the past, the business model for creating and distributing programming, produced for television, was established around two challenging facts: less than 10 percent would stay on the air long enough to accumulate enough episodes for syndication, and only successful series would generally reap rich rewards in license fees. Most of the money would be made many years after season one premiered, often after the entire series had run. Today, a significant portion of new programming may struggle to find a licensee for second or third windows, often because there is not enough demand or interest vs. licensing newly created content. Securing a large license fee during the initial exhibition of series is essential. When evaluating ultimate revenues for the series, it is safest to assume the first license may well be 80 percent or more of its ultimate lifetime revenues. Producers are tethered to the wisdom and strategic aptitude of guilds to factor-in these realities in collective bargaining agreements.

*VA Daily: How should linear TV compete with streaming?*

**BW:** In many ways, linear TV competing with streaming is a parallel to linear TV competing with premium pay-TV services (HBO, Showtime, Starz) a few years ago. Their business models are generally different (some streaming services offer ad and ad-free choices, but the ad-free option is generally the tail on the dog). As owners of some linear channels blend them with streaming services, with content offered across platforms, the linear services are becoming less and less distinct. For the time being, 'live' content (news and sports) is linear's only differentiator.

*VA Daily: Will AVOD and FAST improve broadcasting's outlook?*

**BW:** Yes, it should. Broadcasters have an opportunity, as they did when cable expanded reach beyond over-the-air households beyond signal reach. Some predict a wave of change is coming on the network-affiliate structure, and now is the time for broadcasters to proactively migrate to AVOD and FAST to ensure long futures.

*VA Daily: To increase cable-sat reach, should content providers give up retrans and carriage fees?*

**BW:** Retransmission consent and associated fees, exacerbated by network owners and the cram-down of opportunistic channels the networks required in carriage deals, was one of the significant factors in consumer dissatisfaction with cable and satellite. Both sides need to change the business model, collab-



oratively and soon. Networks charging a fee to carry a signal that is available free (OTA) in most households, and in turn the MVPD passing the cost along to subscribers, should be unwound expeditiously. Otherwise, cord cutting, which is adversely impacted all in the ecosystem, will continue to the point the cable TV model is irreparable.

*VA Daily: Will a move from FTA to broadband-delivered TV signal a change in linear TV's future outlook?*

**BW:** If the evolution is executed correctly and properly, yes. They include reduced costs of operating broadcast operations, including labor, capex, maintenance and utilities (e.g., cost of power), a business model consistent with consumer demand and expectations, thus the ability to more effectively compete with SVOD services, and migration to advertising models deploying technology for targeted ads. Aside from introducing HDTV, broadcasters have lagged on consumer facing technology. It's overdue, and essential, to fully and robustly embrace broadband delivery. ■

**When evaluating ultimate revenues for the series, it is safest to assume the first license may well be 80 percent or more of its ultimate lifetime revenues.**

## China Television's Marketing Issues

**C**hinese entertainment companies have had a massive presence at international TV events in recent years. Here at MIPCOM, for example, China is represented by 32 companies and several Chinese executives can be found among the 221 market seminar panelists.

Yesterday morning the China Pavilion presented the Forum on International Co-operation of Audiovisual Content, hosted by Shanghai Media Group. The Forum aimed to bolster exchanges of content with France (and other countries) on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and France.

Tomorrow, the seventh 'Wisdom in China Formats Showcase' will take place, with the participation of Tencent Video's Fred Gao and iQIYI's Xiaohui Wang, among others.

Still, Chinese companies have not yet received a lot of attention at TV trade events. It's almost as if they're invisible.

At last MIPTV, after receiving an "A" from *VideoAge* for effort for aggressively reaching out to the international TV trade press, the Chinese companies were criticized by some publications for their promotional focus, which emphasized the Chinese nature of their shows, instead of their international value and quality.

It was pointed out that the worldwide success of Turkish series, for example, stems from the promotion of their international nature, rather than the made-in-Turkey label.

Conversely, at the Chinese content presentations, international observers came out baffled by the unfamiliar nature of the presentations, which might work for a Chinese domestic public, but not for an international audience. ■

## Diversify TV Awards to Crown Winners Today

The Diversify TV Awards ceremony will be staged in the Grand Auditorium today from 12 noon to 1 p.m. This year, the 24 finalists were selected from a pool of submissions coming from 29 countries.

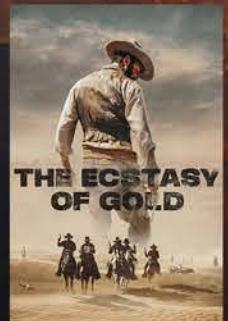
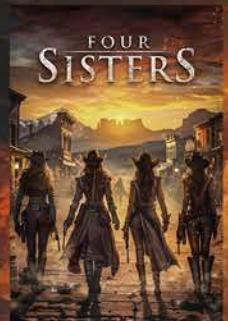
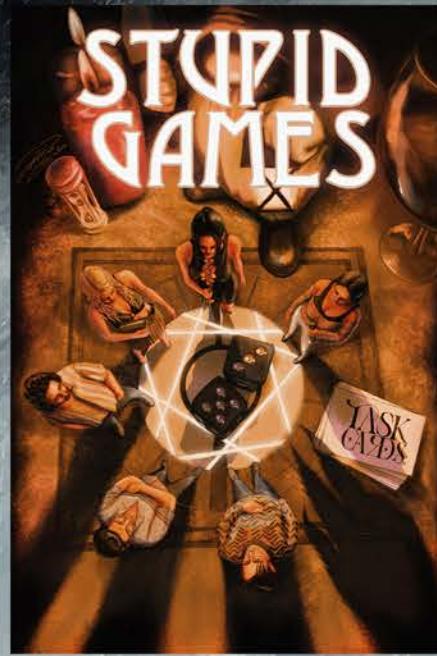
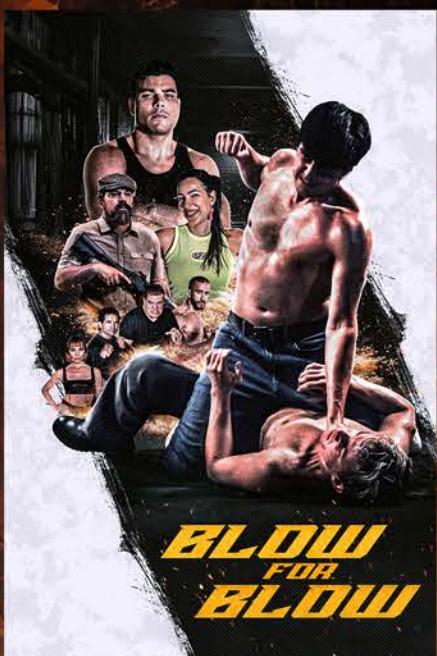
Open to all MIPCOM delegates, the ceremony will again be hosted by British TV presenter and journalist Femi Oke. A total of eight winners will be crowned today. ■

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## MIA's Shortcomings Unresolved, Italian TV & Film Sector Growing

**M**IA, the Italian Audiovisual Market, was back in Rome for its 10th edition, which was held October 14-18 at Palazzo and Cinema Barberini.

The venue is close to the Barberini Metro station, and located on a street lined with shops and restaurants (Via Veneto). However, it has been reported that for next year, MIA organizers are looking at a new, more accommodating venue in Rome.

The event hosted 80 panels, five keynote speakers, screenings for content buyers only, and 45 exhibitors housed on two floors.

For veteran Italian TV executive Giuseppe Proietti, now a production and co-production manager, "MIA is the most important



TV event in Italy — perhaps the only one. It has to improve its logistics and organization. Nonetheless, it is still useful. It's not a market per se, but more of a multi-functional event that could offer both advantages and disadvantages."

Ettore Botta of Los Angeles-based Spacewow, attended MIA last year and returned this year, if only for one day, but explained that "MIA is not really a market where content can be sold. It's basically a congress for co-productions."

Gary Marenzi of the Los Angeles-based Marenzi & Associates answered via e-mail that he didn't go to MIA this year because "with so many co-production conferences showing up on the calendar, many independent producers/distributors have to be selective about where they spend their time and place their effort. MIA is still a great place to meet producers and commissioners in a collegial atmosphere, and its challenge is to attract more industry leaders and create compelling presentations to set them apart from the rest of the similar events."

Despite some of these criticisms, the event's organizers took pride in promoting the participation of key executives at this year's event, including Cecilia Padula (Paramount), Andrea Scrosati (Fremantle), Tesha Crawford (Universal), Antonella Dominici (Paramount+), Ingrid Pittana (NBCUniversal), Katherine Pope (Sony), and Manuel Alduy (France Televisions).

During the event, the Association of Italian Audiovisual Producers (APA) — which organizes MIA jointly with ANICA (Associazione Nazionale Industrie Cinematografiche Audiovisive e Digitali) — announced that the Italian TV and film sector reached US\$2.2 billion last year, up 11 percent from the previous year's figure.

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## NAB New York's U.S. Election Tools

**A**t its annual National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) trade show in New York City — held October 8-10, 2024, at its traditional Javits Center venue — the Washington D.C.-based organization launched an “Election Preparedness Resources” program for broadcasters ahead of the 2024 U.S. presidential and congressional elections. Sessions included “The Election Coverage Summit,” which was held on October 10 and featured experts in media trust and political coverage.

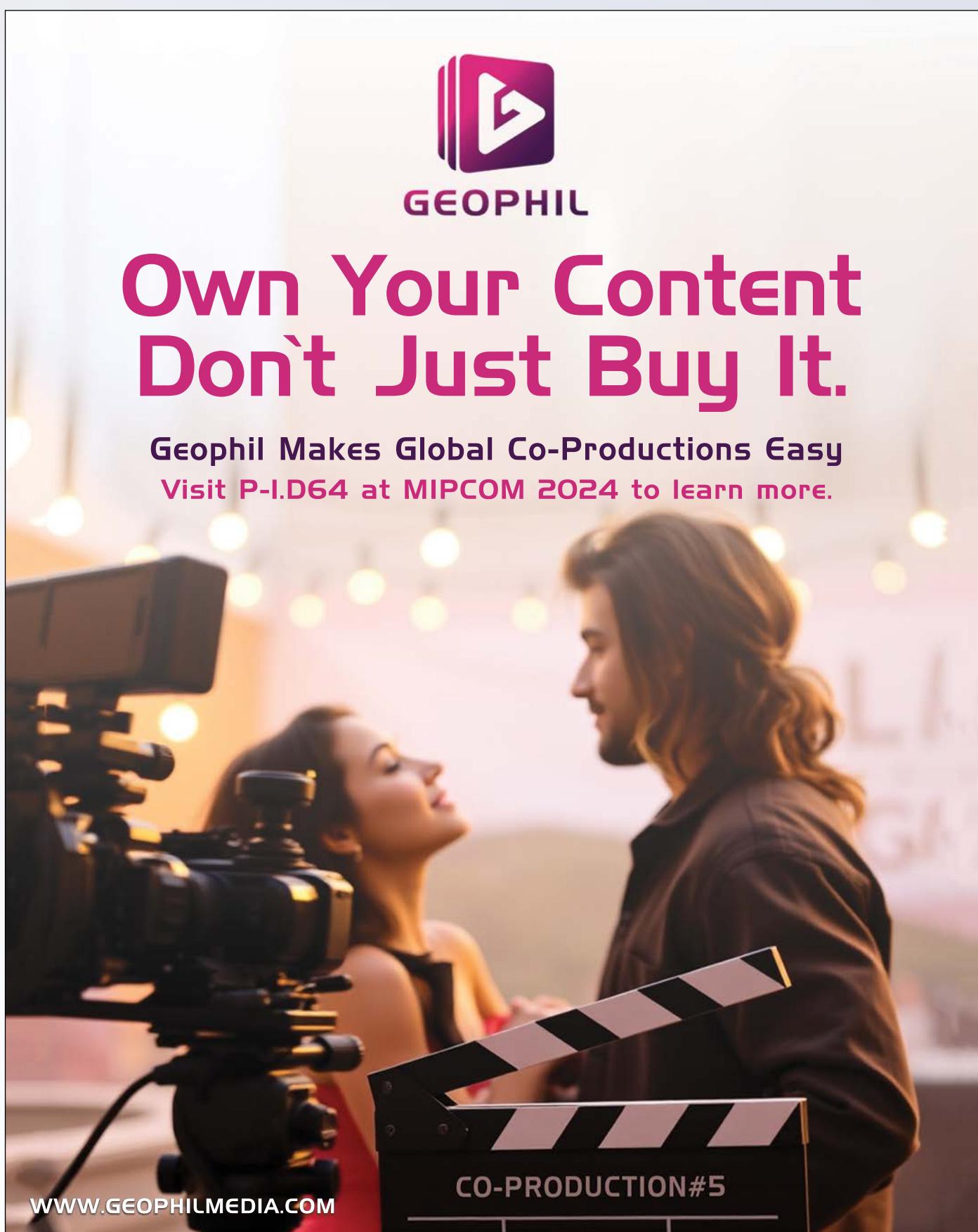


“This is a critical time for our nation and our democracy. Broadcast journalists serve a pivotal role in educating voters on the candidates, the issues and the electoral process, and NAB is here to support them in these efforts,” said NAB President and CEO Curtis LeGeyt. “As bad actors increasingly use advanced technologies to create and spread disinformation, the role of local broadcasters as custodians of the truth has never been more important,” LeGeyt added.

This year, the NAB Show New York started on October 8, with exhibits on October 9-10. The three-day event housed 250 exhibiting companies (two-third of these were located in the “Create Space” section), and a series of seminars for a total of 75 sessions hosting 175 speakers.

In 2015, NAB came to New York City, taking over the Content & Communications World (CCW) event and rebranded it NAB Show New York.

This year’s event drew 12,000 participants. The New York event is just one-sixth of the size of April’s NAB Las Vegas, but it’s still good in terms of the film/TV and broadcast industry’s participation. Next year, the dates for the event’s floor show are October 22-23, 2025, well past MIPCOM Cannes, which will take place October 13-16, 2025.



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Elizabeth Donatelli, VP of Communications at the National Association of Broadcasters, with VideoAge's Dom Serafini at the NAB Show New York, 2024.

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# Global Content Highlights

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**Holy Marvels with Dennis Quaid** (factual, history) (pictured)

Hosted by Dennis Quaid, this series explores faith through sacred objects. Expert interviews and recreations in each of the eight episodes illuminate belief systems via wonders like the Mayan Calendar, Noah's Ark, and the Fountain of Youth.



**Alone (Format and Series)** (competition, survival)

Ten participants must survive in total isolation in the Canadian wilderness, hoping to outlast the others for a \$500,000 prize. But as they endure hunger, loneliness, and harsh elements, they soon must contend with an unexpected danger: They're deep in polar bear territory.

**Cold Case File: DNA Speaks** (factual, crime and investigation)

This 10-part documentary series focuses on murder cases that remained unsolved for decades and were ultimately cracked with DNA evidence. It explores these scientific developments, as well as the unwavering dedication of families and investigators that eventually brought the killers to justice.

**Homicide Squad: New Orleans** (crime and investigation)

With one of the highest homicide rates in the country, New Orleans' overworked homicide squad fights to find justice for loved ones of the victims and to make the streets of the Big Easy safe.

**Kevin Costner's The West** (factual, history)

Hosted and narrated by Kevin Costner and executive produced by Doris Kearns Goodwin, the first season of this returning series will capture some of the West's vast sweep in stand-alone episodes.

**MIPCOM Stand Number: C15.A6**

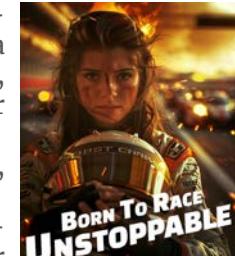
## AMERICAN CINEMA INSPIRES

**Sugarcreek Amish Mysteries** (mystery)

After Cheryl's four-year engagement ends in a devastating breakup, her life is turned upside down when her aunt offers her an escape from Chicago to the Amish town of Sugarcreek. Struggling with being a fish out of water, Cheryl uncovers an unsettling secret that could disrupt the small town of Ohio. As Cheryl begins to solve the mystery, she finds community, belonging and the potential of new love.

**Born to Race Unstoppable** (action) (pictured)

Determined to prove she's the best, Valerie races to find self-worth and bring back the man she thought she lost. As tensions rise and secrets unravel, Valerie's journey becomes a battle for redemption, love, and a shot at getting her life back.



**A Royal Reunion** (drama, family)

Adelaide Smith, a driven law student, finds her

world turned upside down when she's thrust into royal life. Struggling with her sense of self and her ambitions, Adelaide navigates the intense demands of royalty and her deepening personal connections.

**Another Chance** (holiday)

After achieving everything she wanted, Carmen finds herself in a moment of desperation as Easter approaches. She prays fervently for a meaningful change in her life. In a miraculous twist, her prayers are answered: She wakes up in an alternate reality where she's married to childhood sweetheart, Paul. As she navigates these contrasting worlds, Carmen must decide what truly matters.

**MIPCOM Stand Number: R7.F12**

## AMUZ DISTRIBUTION

**1995** (movie)

Ricardo, on the verge of quitting filmmaking, joins a competition that reignites his passion and leads to self-discovery during his travels.



**Marco** (dramedy)

Marco Lachance's life may not resemble his former rockstar dreams, but his legendary optimism leads him to reconnect with his passion!

**Babyatrice** (animated comedy)

Babyatrice is the precocious, self-proclaimed queen of the castle where she reigns supreme with her frank-speaking observations and never ceases to impress with her imagination.

**Like Father, Like Daughter** (comedy)

Follows the adventures of Daphnée and her vibrant father, Pierre, as they transform their everyday life into epic, humorous quests in Rosemont-Petite-Patrie.

**JFL — Gags** (variety, sketch) (pictured)

There's no sound but plenty of laughs when a crazy Quebec-based troupe uses the city as its stage and its inhabitants, or victims, as characters!

**MIPCOM Stand Number: R8.E1**

## ATV

**The Nightfall** (drama) (pictured)

Police inspector Mahir is determined to avenge his father, who was assassinated by Kürşat Kilimci. Mahir has a fateful encounter with Canfeza, Kürşat's daughter, and instantly falls in love. Mahir's chance for revenge will come at Canfeza's wedding, but this event will change his life forever.



**Safir** (drama)

In the Gülsoy family mansion, housekeeper Feraye falls for Yaman, one of the family's heirs. However, Yaman must wed Aleyna. Ateş, the eldest child, saves Feraye from heartbreak and falls in love with her.

**Street Birds** (drama)

Five friends find an abandoned baby in a trash bin and decide to take care of baby Gülayşe.

The five friends accidentally wound a bad guy named Çatal, then (also accidentally) kill a woman who was looking for the baby. Time goes by and the five friends are now adults, but everything will fall apart once a policeman comes to find Gülayşe.

**The Father** (drama)

A secret service assassin who served his country, Cezayir Türk, takes revenge on his brother for being sabotaged. He must fake his own death for the sake of his family and the government. He starts his new life with his new family, but everything falls apart when he is discovered.

**MIPCOM Stand: P-1.J2**

## CALINOS ENTERTAINMENT

**Hidden Garden** (drama) (pictured)

Nazlı is a young, single mother living with her son Memo. When Demir, Memo's wealthy uncle, discovers that his late brother had a child, he steps in to take care of Memo. Upon learning about Nazlı's profession, Demir refuses to let Memo stay with her and wages a custody battle. However, Nazlı is not who Demir thinks she is and she has a big secret.



**Farah** (drama)

An Iranian woman who ran away from her country to live in Istanbul, works as a cleaning lady in order to afford her son's medical treatments, but she soon turns into a mafia accomplice.

**Indefensible** (crime drama)

The combative, endearing team of criminal lawyers at Lapointe-Macdonald Law Firm are passionate about justice. Viewers will be captivated by the touching and disturbing causes they defend as well as by their personal, ethical, emotional, and psychological issues.

**EGO** (drama)

When Erhan asks for money from his father-in-law to invest on the stock market, things turn for the worse and Erhan loses all the money. Meanwhile, Sibel, of the wealthy Koraslan family, learns that if she doesn't have a baby soon, she will never be able to bear children. Erhan's and Sibel's lives will completely change when Sibel decides to get pregnant with Erhan's baby and make an indecent proposal in the amount of 3 million.

**Forbidden Fruit** (drama)

Socialite Ender hires Yıldız to seduce her businessman husband Halit, so that Ender can get Halit's assets after the divorce. However, Yıldız betrays Ender and exposes her plan. Halit still divorces Ender but marries Yıldız, continuing the endless war between the two women.

**MIPCOM Stand: P-1.M51**

## COSMOBLUE

**CosmoGO** (channel)

CosmoGO merges the traditional "lean-back" viewing experience with modern on-demand streaming, offering instant access to a comprehensive VOD catalog and live channels on any internet-connected device. CosmoGO's

(Continued on the next page)

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(Continued from the previous page)

expertly curated content includes Hollywood hits featuring renowned stars, unique independent films, engaging TV series, insightful documentaries, lifestyle shows, and sports content covering a diverse range of genres and interests.

#### CosmoNovelas (channel)

CosmoNovelas is the premier destination for global series enthusiasts. The channel is a vibrant tapestry of captivating stories, unforgettable characters, and diverse cultures. With a rich selection of series from all around the world, every show is an adventure, a journey into different worlds filled with drama, love, and intrigue.

#### CosmoSports (channel)

CosmoSports is where the world of sports comes alive on screens. CosmoSports TV channel is committed to delivering a diverse and comprehensive range of sports content that caters to fans globally.

#### CosmoKids Network (channel)

CosmoKids Network is an animation TV channel designed for young audiences. Programs spark curiosity and deliver pure fun, where young minds can explore endless adventures. With dynamic storytelling, vibrant characters, and visually stunning animations, CosmoKids brings joy and wonder to every episode, offering a delightful entertainment experience for children.

#### Da Vinci (channel)

Da Vinci is the home of award-winning TV shows and interactive edutainment, covering captivating topics from science and nature to diverse cultures and current events. The linear channel and on-demand content targets kids from age 6 with videos, games promoting learning with easy access via web, and apps on mobile, tablets, and connected TV and device partners. Da Vinci is available globally in 22 languages.

**Office at MIPCOM: 3 Square Merimee, Cannes**

#### DISNEY ENTERTAINMENT LATIN AMERICA

##### Amor da Minha Vida (romantic comedy) (pictured)

Victor is in a long-lasting relationship that has fallen flat. Bia, his best friend, is the opposite. Their friendship survives until Bia meets Marcelo. When Bia must choose between staying or leaving to live abroad with Marcelo, she realizes that the true love of her life had been right by her side.

##### Cars on the Road (animated shorts)

Lightning McQueen and his best friend Mater head east from Radiator Springs on a cross-country road trip to meet up with Mater's sister. Along the way, every stop is its own adventure, with outrageous roadside attractions and colorful new characters.

##### Checo Pérez: ¡No Te Rindas, Cabr#n! (docuseries)

Cameras follow Formula One driver Checo's training and preparations as he pursues victory at the 2022 Mexico City Grand Prix, his home race. The thrilling moments build toward Checo potentially standing atop the podium.



#### El Encargado (The Boss) (comedy, drama, mystery)

Eliseo, the superintendent of an upscale building, is cordial and docile in his role, but he believes he is the omnipotent figure of the community — pulling strings and meddling in the affairs of residents. Eliseo's only concern is protecting his job, which comes under threat by a proposed pool project.

#### Meet Spidey and his Amazing Friends (animated shorts)

Our favorite web-slinger is great at working solo, but Spidey is about to discover that when he's got some super-hero friends by his side, he can fight supervillains and rescue anyone in trouble even better. Meet the good guys and gals that help Spidey save the day!

**MIPCOM Stand: P3.C1**

#### FILMRISE

##### Z Nation (scripted, sci-fi series) (pictured)

In the wake of a zombie apocalypse, a ragtag group of strangers escort the only known survivor of a zombie bite across the United States in hopes that the survivor's blood will save humanity.



##### Hot Ones (unscripted, talk show series)

In this virally popular, Emmy Award-nominated and Streamy Award-winning series, host Sean Evans interviews A-list celebrities as they sample increasingly intense hot wings.

##### Highway to Heaven (scripted, family drama)

Celebrating 40 years since its broadcast premiere, the late Michael Landon stars in a heartfelt family drama about a probationary angel who is sent back to Earth and teams up with an ex-cop to help people in need.

##### Forensic Files II (unscripted, true crime series)

The next chapter in the long-running true crime documentary franchise where evidence and interviews with experts help solve real crimes, disease outbreaks, and accidents worldwide.

##### Untold Stories of the ER FAST Channel (unscripted, medical reality, FAST channel)

On this channel, doctors and nurses chronicle their most memorable emergency room cases alongside dramatic reenactments.

**MIPCOM Stand: R7.N9**

#### GLOBAL AGENCY

##### Promise of the Heart (drama) (pictured)

Free-spirited Kerim's life is shattered when his father dies in a traffic accident. When beautiful Ecrin begins to work for his family, she faces abuse from those who believe her father was a killer, but everything changes when she discovers a dark conspiracy plotted. Kerim and Ecrin embark on a dramatic journey of discovery that transforms lives.



##### One Love (drama)

Idealistic Doga falls hopelessly in love with the charming Fatih, whose devout family's values clash with Doga's mother. With her mother convinced that religion will doom

their marriage, Doga and Fatih battle for their love to triumph over this culture clash.

##### Vendetta (drama)

Dilan and Baran are forced into marriage to end a blood feud. The powerful drama revolves around a treacherous uncle's plot to get the family fortune by pressuring Baran to take revenge. Desperate to prevent violence, Baran vows to marry his enemy's daughter and is torn between love for her and hatred of her family.

##### Red Roses (drama)

Meryem was married off at 14 in an Islamic sect, and she is now battling bravely to prevent her daughter Zeynep suffering the same fate as the bride of the sheikh's grandson. Guided by her sister-in-law, a former sect member, they realize they must flee to save Zeynep from the sect's powerful clutches.

##### Everybody Sing (singing game show)

The show, anchored by a charming host, tests 50 contestants with musical challenges and gives them the chance to win a big money prize and bond as they have fun. *Everybody Sing* is a celebration of music and its power to bring people together, packed with entertainment for viewers who can share the delight of the contestants.

**MIPCOM Stand: R8.D21**

#### GRB MEDIA RANCH

##### Playground (docu-reality) (pictured)

Premier pro dancer studio where classes are taught by top choreographers, and auditions held by musicians like Megan Thee Stallion, attracting ambitious dancers and drama!



##### Cutlers Court (courtroom reality)

Emmy-nominated Judges Dana and Keith Cutler hear from couples having trouble in their relationships: cheating, paternity, money, etc. Should the relationship continue or end?

##### Owl Rescue (docu-series)

Spouses Brendan and Danelle Murray operate NPO "Owl Rescue Centre" in Hartebeespoort Dam, in Northwest South Africa, to protect the wild owl population and other wildlife.

##### It's Pawsable (docu-series)

Enjoy heartwarming stories of furry animal patients and their pet parents at a world class veterinarian rehabilitation facility, run by founder Heather and her team.

##### Prairie 911: Animal Rescue (docu-series)

Follow the adventures of injured and abandoned animals at the Canadian Wildlife Haven Rehabilitation Centre, a sanctuary led by Dr. Fanny and her team.

**MIPCOM Stand: R7.A16**

#### INSURGENCE

Founded in 2019 by technology executive Niccolo Messina, Insurgence is breaking new ground in the production and distribution of independent films and documentary content. Since its inception, the independent entertainment studio has premiered over 100 original movies and 60 documentaries on its own YouTube channel, amassing



(Continued on the next page)



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more than 9 billion streams worldwide. Insurgence has also licensed select titles from its library of independent features to digital streaming platforms worldwide, further demonstrating the company's successful production and distribution formula aimed at empowering emerging filmmakers and reshaping the traditional movie distribution landscape. The company features **Night Frights**, a collection of 10 horror titles, and **Lights... Camera... ACTION!**, a package of 10 action movies.

**Contact:** [Nick@Insurgence.co](mailto:Nick@Insurgence.co)

#### INTER MEDYA

##### **Deception** (drama) (pictured)

Family court judge Güzide Yenersoy seems to have it all: a loving lawyer husband, a successful son, and a daughter studying to be a doctor. But beneath the surface, buried secrets threaten to turn Güzide's picture-perfect life upside down.



##### **Love and Pride** (drama)

The Köksoy family are on the verge of losing everything. When Tolga, heir to a wealthy family, enters their lives, they plot how one of their three daughters might marry him. Eldest daughter Mercan rebels against the idea, despite Tolga and Mercan being attracted to each other. However, the middle daughter, Gül desires Tolga too.

##### **Poison Ivy** (drama)

When Macide, who comes from a poor family, falls in love with Kazım Işık, a successful married businessman, she's thrilled to learn that he loves her back. But will he be able to protect her from the cruelty of the rich and powerful?

##### **The Trusted** (drama)

Ex-soldier Marashli opens a bookstore to spend more time with his sick daughter. His life changes when the beautiful Mahur Turel walks in. From now on the destiny of the two characters will be interwoven.

##### **Tuzak** (drama)

Siblings Mahir, Umut, and Umay realize that they don't share the bond they thought they had, while siblings Güneş, Güven, and Mete have spent their lives believing that their father's approval and their comfortable lives were more important than each other. As Umut tries to get revenge against the family he hates, he confronts an even bigger conflict thanks to Güneş, whom he believes to be the love of his life.

**MIPCOM Stand:** C16.C

#### KANAL D INTERNATIONAL

##### **The Family Burden** (drama) (pictured)

Melike, wrongfully imprisoned for 20 years, dreams of reuniting with her daughter. Upon release, she faces a new prison of lies and betrayal. As she uncovers the truth and searches for her husband's real killer, Melike must confront the complexities of her daughter's life.



##### **Secret of Pearls** (drama)

Azem's life shatters when he takes the blame for his wife's death to protect his daughter. After prison, he seeks his adopted children, navigating complex relationships, but time has taken its toll.

##### **A Father's Promise** (drama)

In 1980's political turmoil, Mustafa sacrifices to save his wife, leaving his daughter with the wealthy Ronas. A poignant tale unfolds as they reunite, facing dangers and love's resilience.

##### **Daylight** (drama)

Gece's summer dreams of university and music in Istanbul are disrupted when her family moves to Foça for her sister Gülce's special needs. A tale of love, maturity, and unexpected challenges unfolds.

##### **Farewell Letter** (drama)

Alanur's life, dependent on Ziya, takes an unexpected turn after 30 years. As their children, Aslı and Mehmet, navigate love and family opposition, hidden connections from the past resurface.

**MIPCOM Stand:** R8.D2

#### LIONSGATE ENTERTAINMENT

##### **Spartacus: House of Ashur** (drama)

Ashur escapes Vesuvius and inherits Batatus' gladiator school for ending the rebellion. Now, as a free man, he commands a deadly team of gladiators.

##### **The Hunting Wives** (drama)

Sophie O'Neil moves to East Texas, falls under the spell of socialite Margo Banks, and becomes entangled in a dangerous web of obsession, seduction, and murder.

##### **Amandaland** (comedy)

While newly divorced Amanda moves with her teens to East London, she tackles teenage rebellion and loneliness while adjusting to her new life.

##### **Plum** (drama)

Rugby league star Peter "The Plum" Lum, diagnosed with CTE from his glory days, must change his rugged lifestyle to cope with his new reality.

##### **The Chosen** (drama)

(pictured)

A historical drama portraying the life of Jesus and those who knew him, set against the Roman oppression in first-century Israel, revealing his revolutionary impact..

**MIPCOM Stand:** C15.A8



#### MULTICOM ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

##### **A Christmas Romance** (1994) (romance, family)

Stars Olivia Newton-John and Gregory Harrison. Julia, a widow with two daughters, faces eviction from the bank. When the bank's vice president gets injured, he is forced to spend Christmas with Julia and her family. 30th Anniversary, newly restored in 4K.

##### **They Whisper**

(thriller) (pictured)

A young boy falls into a coma while playing in an abandoned mine-shaft. His parents are beyond relieved when he finally awakens, but their problems are far



from over. As strange occurrences plague their home, shadowy figures stalk the family, and unseen forces close in on them.

##### **Cold Betrayal** (2024) (thriller)

After double-crossing the New York mob, a woman returns to Long Island with her girlfriend to enlist the help of her estranged criminal father in unloading drugs. However, she soon realizes that things have changed in the fifteen years she's been away.

##### **SK8FACE** (2024) (documentary)

The first documentary focused on the history of skateboard art, starring Tony Hawk, Shepard Fairey, Tommy Guerrero, and many famous artists and skaters.

##### **Tokyo Giant: The Legend of Victor Starffin** (2024) (documentary)

As a child, Victor Starffin fled the Russian Revolution and settled in Japan, where he found success as a baseball superstar. However, he constantly battled to overcome hardships such as poverty, xenophobia, and a world war. Starffin's two daughters take us on a wild ride of shifting identities, international rivalries, tragic love, and one heck of a fastball.

**MIPCOM Stand:** R7.B9

#### NBCUNIVERSAL GLOBAL TV DISTRIBUTION

##### **Suits: L.A.** (drama series) (pictured)

Ted Black, a former federal prosecutor from New York, has reinvented himself representing the most powerful clients in Los Angeles. His firm is at a crisis point and to survive he must embrace a role he held in contempt his entire career. Ted is surrounded by a stellar group of characters who test their loyalties to both Ted and each other.



**Grosse Pointe Garden Society** (drama series) Four members of a suburban garden club, all from different walks of life, get caught up in murder and mischief as they struggle to make their conventional lives bloom.

##### **The Hunting Party** (drama series)

A high-concept crime procedural about a small team of investigators who are assembled to track down and capture the most dangerous killers our country has ever seen, all of whom have just escaped from a top-secret prison that's not supposed to exist.

##### **Lockerbie: A Search for Truth** (drama series)

On December 21, 1988, 259 passengers and crew were killed when Pan Am Flight 103 exploded over Lockerbie, with a further 11 residents losing their life as the plane came down over the Scottish town. In the wake of the disaster and his daughter's death, Dr. Jim Swire is nominated spokesperson for the U.K. victims' families.

##### **The Americas** (event series)

Narrated by Tom Hanks, *The Americas* will feature music by Hans Zimmer. This project will employ revolutionary filmmaking technology to showcase the wonders, secrets, and fragilities of the Americas — Earth's largest landmass and the only one to stretch between both poles — and reveal extraordinary wildlife stories that deeply connect with millions around the world.

**MIPCOM Stand:** P4.C4

(Continued on the next page)



1. Lionsgate's Nicky Wood, Agapy Kapouranis, Kate Neson, Annie Yim
2. SPI International's Hubert Ornass-Kubacki, Agata Blaszka, Erwan Luherne, Patrycja Gałazka-Struzik, THEMA's Patrick Rivet and Timothy Vidal
3. ATV's Merve Altuncu, Doruk Yenihayat, Müge Akar, Gozde Dinc Ozcan, Sena Kul
4. Viral Nation's Bianca Serafini and Paul Telner
5. Record TV's Grace Andrade, Delmar Andrade, Thiago Castro
6. Calinos Entertainment's Firat Gulgen with the Hidden Garden stars Ebru Sahin and Murat Yildirim
7. RoCreativity's Mihai Lupu
8. Publispei's Verdiana Bixio and Antonio Adinolfi
9. All3Media International's Ziran Tang, Rachel Glaister
10. Telefilms's Ricardo Costianovsky (c.) and Bruce Boren (r.) with producer Roberto Gómez Fernández (l.) at the premiere screening of new animated series Los Colorado
11. Amuz Distribution's Zoe Crabtree and Alex Avon
12. Global Agency's Izzet Pinto
13. GRB Media Ranch's Liz Levenson and Sophie Ferron
14. Inter Medya's Can Okan
15. Kanal D's Gonca Çelik



(Continued from the previous page)

## PUBLISPEI

**Sleeping Nymph** (crime) (pictured)

Inspector Teresa Battaglia will find herself deep in a dark mystery that dates to World War II. When a woman's body is found in the woods, all signs point to suicide. Suspecting foul play, Teresa uncovers a bloody trail that spans across almost a century and seems to originate from a long-lost painting that has a horrifying peculiarity.

**For Women Only** (drama)

When you are a 15-year-old girl and your body changes, you freak out. When you are a 50-year-old woman, and your body changes again, you freak out again. The parachute remains the same: your friends, the ones who stay the same and grow old with you.

**Le Medicheste – Lady Doctors** (period drama)

This drama tells a story with two focal points: the trenches along the eastern front, where soldiers are fighting without respite; and the hospital where the lady doctors tend to the wounded and mutilated, trying to bring serenity to the combatants.

**Yet We Fall Happy 2** (young adult drama)

In season 2, the protagonists, starting from Gioia, will find themselves having to question every certainty they thought they had and will have to deal with their pasts to become adults.

**Spina** (crime drama)

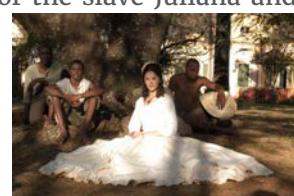
When Piersanti Spina, a DIGOS agent affected by CIPA — a condition that prevents him from feeling neither pleasure nor pain — gets demoted after disobeying orders and blowing up a delicate operation, he decides to take matters into his own hands and hunt down the international drug trafficker who escaped him.

Contact: [a.adinolfi@publispei.it](mailto:a.adinolfi@publispei.it)

## RECORD TV

**The Slave Isaura**

## (period telenovela) (pictured)



Isaura, the daughter of the slave Juliana and the farm manager Miguel, is raised and educated by the Commander's family. Despite an excellent education and fair skin, Isaura is a slave of the Commander. Amid suffering for her freedom, she lives a beautiful love story.

**Topíssima** (telenovela)

Sheds light on the conflicts of modern women: work versus love life; independence versus loneliness; motherhood versus career; aging versus aesthetics; illegality of abortion versus death, among others. The series also features a police investigation full of twists and turns.

**Ultimate Love** (telenovela)

Everyone would like to experience — or has imagined experiencing — a love story capable of overcoming any difference, prejudice or obstacle imaginable. This sentiment often arises in the most unexpected places and in even unlikely people.

**Belaventura** (telenovela)

Set in the Middle Ages, in a beautiful and fictional region known as Belaventura. The story revolves around Pietra, a beautiful young woman who lives outside the castles of Be-

laventura, and Enrico, a prince who inherited a great kingdom.

**The Slave Mother** (telenovela)

*The Slave Mother* is the prequel to *The Slave Isaura*. It tells the story of Juliana, Isaura's mother, who lives an intense love story and is faced with powerful enemies and obstacles in an era that lives in the shadow of slavery.

**MIPCOM Stand: P-1.G67**

## SPI INTERNATIONAL

SPI International, a CANAL+ company, is a global media company operating TV channels and multiple digital products across six continents. It is a major player in content distribution and broadcasting worldwide. SPI operates multiple free-to-air and pay-TV channels in CEE, Western Europe, Asia, and Adria regions, including key European markets such as Poland, Czechia, Romania, Serbia and the Netherlands. SPI owns a suite of legacy brands that have become household names, such as FilmBox, Film1, Kino Polska, Stopklatka, and Dizi, along with different thematic channels and streaming services, including FilmBox+. Working with over 800 operators worldwide, SPI uses cutting-edge technology, providing its subscribers with access to SPI's linear and on-demand content. For over 25 years, SPI INTERNATIONAL has been a leading supplier of theatrical films and television programming in the international markets. SPI's solid alliances with major license suppliers provide compelling content A-list stars such as Morgan Freeman, Al Pacino, and Bruce Willis. SPI's catalog presents a wide range of more than 3,000 titles all from commercial genres like action, comedy, thriller, exciting new theatrical releases as well as evergreen library feature films. The highlights from SPI's catalog include US feature films like: **Panda Plan** (Jackie Chan) (pictured), **Four Letters of Love** (Pierce Brosnan, Helena Bonham Carter), **Skyline: Warpath** (Scott Adkins), **Arcadian** (Nicolas Cage), **Damaged** (Samuel L. Jackson), **Arthur's Whiskey** (Diana Keaton), **Sunrise** (Alex Pettyfer), **Super Icy-clone** (Brigitte Kingsley), **Not With Me** (Polish production), and **Daughter of the Nation** (Czech production).

**MIPCOM Stand: R8.C17A**



## TELEFILMS

**Longlegs** (thriller) (pictured)

In 1974, Lee Harker, a new FBI agent, has been assigned to an unsolved case of a serial killer. As the investigation becomes more complicated with new occult evidence, Harker realizes a personal link to the killer and must act quickly to prevent another family murder.

**The Apprentice** (biopic)

Starring Sebastian Stan as Donald Trump, the film examines Trump's career as a real estate businessman in New York in the 1970s and 80s. The film also stars Jeremy Strong, Maria Bakalova, and Martin Donovan.

**Conclave** (drama)

After the unexpected death of the former Pope, Cardinal Lawrence is appointed to lead one of the most secret and antiquated rituals worldwide: the new Pope selection. When the powerful leaders of the Catholic Church reunite in the Vatican salons, Lawrence ends up implicated in a complex conspiracy.

**Terrifier 3** (horror)

Horror movie enthusiasts will immerse themselves in a terrifying experience as Art The Clown unleashes his malevolence, bringing tension and horror to new levels of chaos upon the unsuspecting residents of Miles County during a quiet Christmas Eve.

**Better Man** (biopic)

*Better Man* is based on the true story of the meteoric rise, dramatic fall, and remarkable resurgence of British pop superstar Robbie Williams. The film follows Robbie's journey from childhood, to being the youngest member of chart-topping boyband Take That.

**MIPCOM Stand: P-1.K3**

## VIRAL NATION

**The Dudesons** (comedy, stunt show)

Finnish stuntmen and MTV Icons —Jukka, Jarno and HP— are back and ready to cause trouble. The program follows the trio as they get up to unbelievable antics alongside iconic Y2K guests and continue to shock audiences today.

**Camp McCarty** (comedy) (pictured)

Welcome to Camp McCarty, a hidden sanctuary where the quirky McCarty family manages the delicate coexistence between monsters trying to take a vacation and humans. With all the unpredictability and chaos of running an all season all monster resort, the resourceful McCarty family does everything in their power to safeguard their haven from the outside human world.

**Full Tilt** (comedy, stunt show)

Jackass producer, Trip Taylor, partners with Viral Nation to create the next generation of extreme content, from comedy to pranks to stunts and challenges. Together with content from creators Nick Pro, Josh Horton, Legendary Shots and iconic libraries like Dew Tour, Formula Drift and The Dudesons, this offering blends original content and beloved libraries that gave rise to the genre and brings it to the next level.

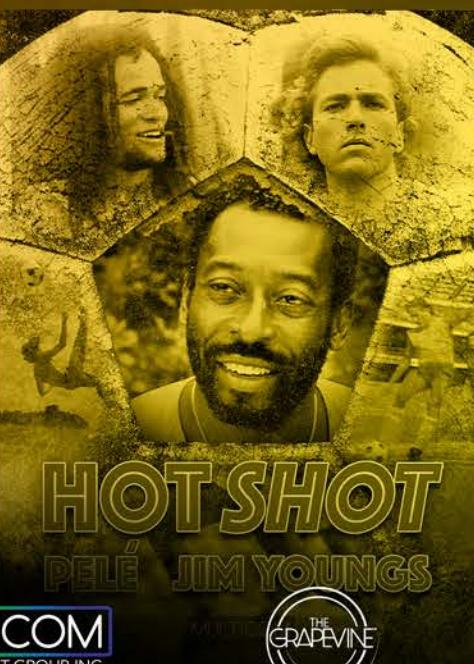
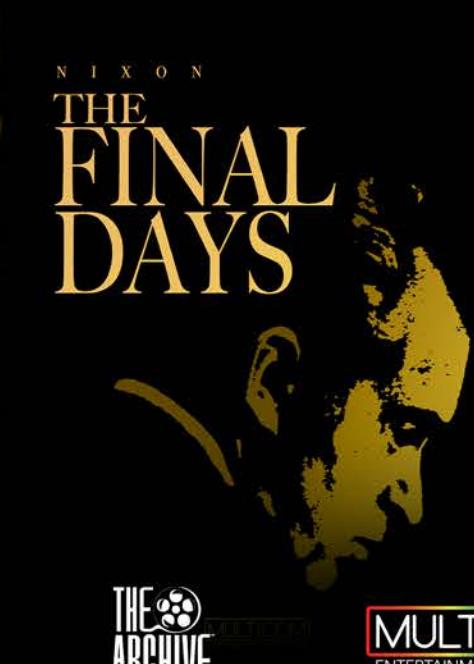
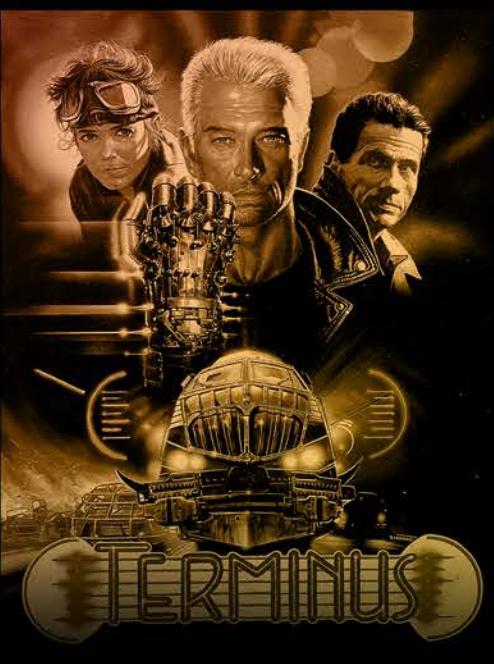
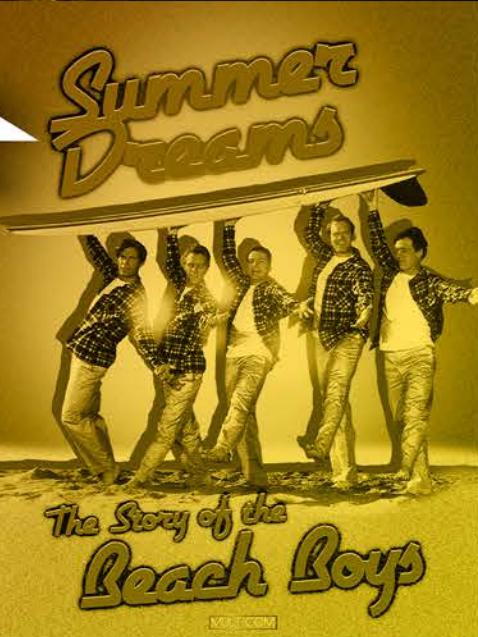
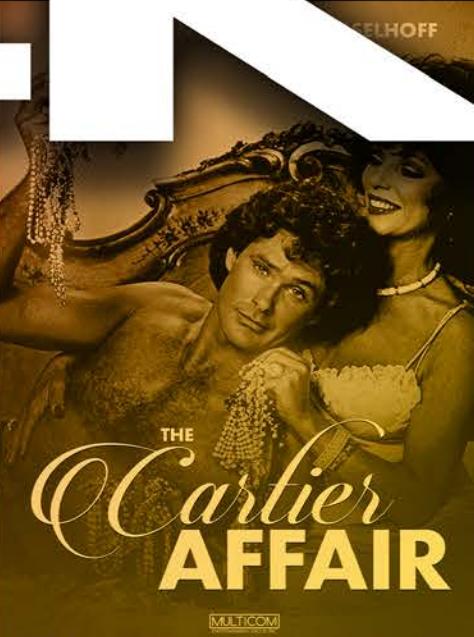
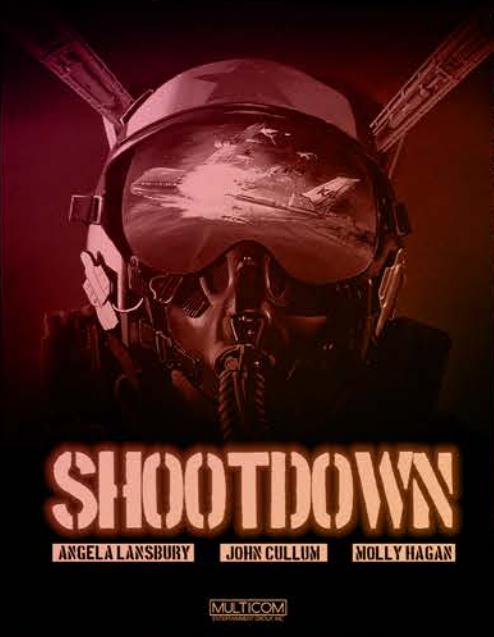
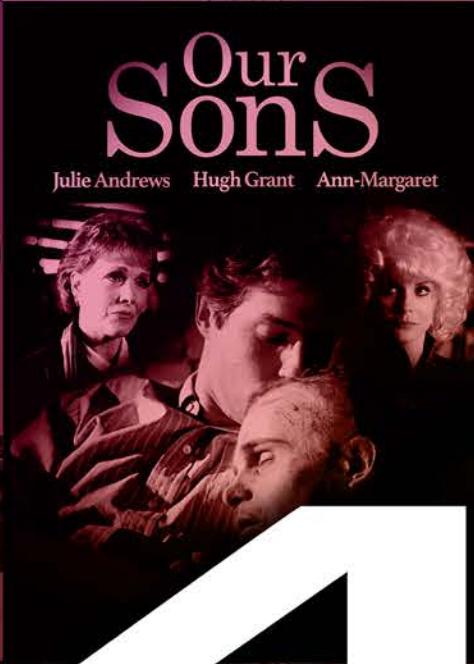
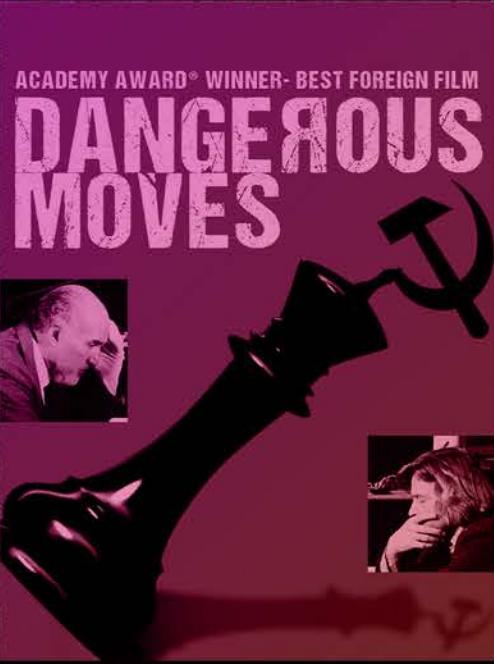
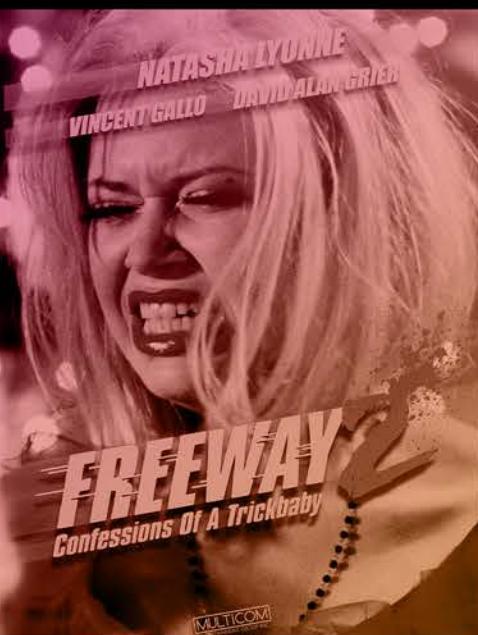
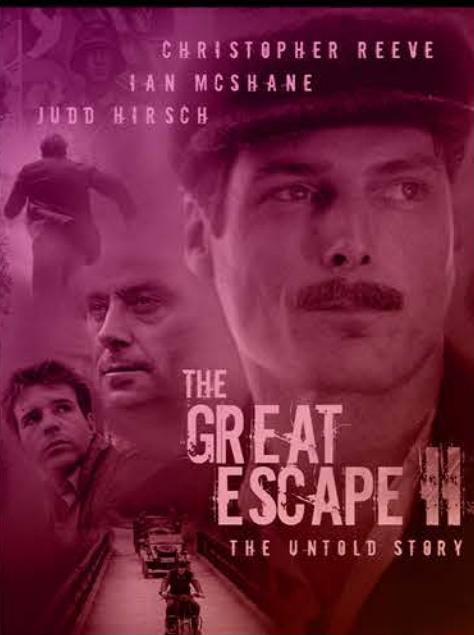
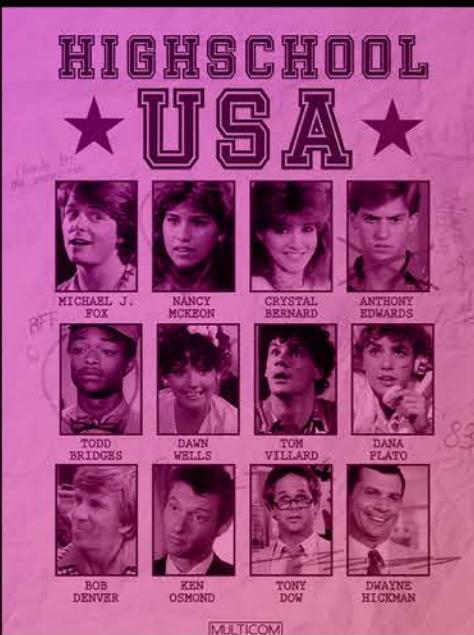
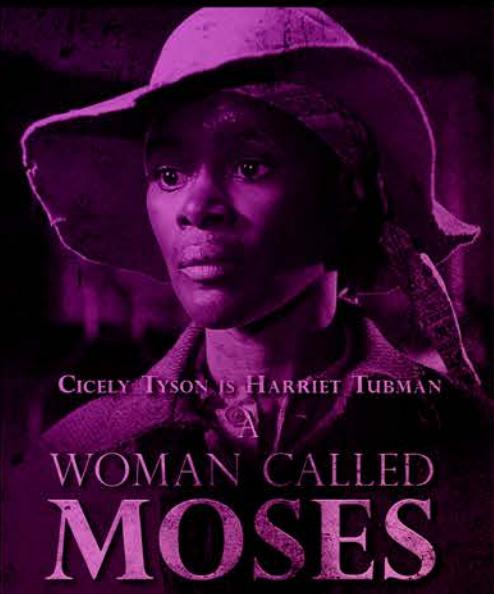
**Steven He** (comedy)

Best known for his comedic sketches, particularly his viral "Asian Dad" series, this channel features humorous skits about the experience of growing up in an Asian household. With a mix of sharp comedic timing, relatable scenarios, and hilarious acting, Steven He has built a devout audience base that is excited to keep watching.

**Nick & Poli's Nursery Rhymes** (educational)

A library full of fun, engaging, and educational content for young children. The content features classic and original nursery rhymes, combining bright, colorful visuals with catchy tunes that help kids learn and develop essential skills. It aims to provide a safe, family-friendly environment that supports early childhood learning through music and entertainment.

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